



NEWS RELEASE

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DECEMBER 21, 2004
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEXICAN NATIONAL PLEADS GUILTY TO ILLEGAL FIREARM POSSESSION

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Mexican national pleaded guilty in federal court today to illegally possessing three 9 mm pistols and a rifle.

Nestor A. Barraza, 27, a Mexican national living in Kansas City, pleaded guilty before U.S. Chief District Judge Dean Whipple this morning to being an illegal alien in possession of four firearms.

By pleading guilty, **Barraza** admitted that he was in possession of three Sturm, Ruger and Company 9 mm pistols and a Stevens .22-caliber rifle between Jan. 7 and 12, 2004. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any illegal alien to be in possession of any firearm.

Barraza was originally charged in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury on Oct. 29, 2004, in Kansas City.

As a result of pleading guilty, **Barraza** may be subject to maximum sentence of up to 10 years in federal prison without parole, plus a fine up to \$250,000. A sentencing hearing will be scheduled after the completion of a presentence investigation by the United States Probation Office.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Kathleen D. Mahoney. The case was investigated by the Kansas City, Mo., Police Department.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States

Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow